

# How to get out of vi

Part 2:

# How to stay in vi and live

Wolfram Rösler

# How to exit this bus?



STARECAT.COM

# The vi Editor

If you know vi, it's the fastest editor in the world.

If you don't, it'll drive you insane.

# History

1969 Unix

1969 First moon landing

**1976 vi**

1982 Compact Disc

1983 C++

1984 Macintosh

1985 Windows

1991 Linux

**1991 vim**

2000 Wikipedia

2007 iPhone

2019 There are still people who don't know how to exit vi

# Why still use it?

- Ubiquitous
- Common default
- No GUI required
- Edits anything
- Very fast
- Very few keystrokes needed
- Makes you look like a wizard

# Warm-up: Text input

i	Insert at cursor position
a	Insert after cursor position
I	Add at beginning of current line
A	Add at end of current line
o	Add new line below
O	Add new line above

Press *Esc* after entering new text

# Single letter commands

(not a complete list!)

<i>Arrow keys</i>	Move cursor
w	Move to next word
f <sub>x</sub>	Move to next <i>x</i>
%	Move to matching ) ] }
n	Repeat last search
x	Delete character under cursor
r <sub>x</sub>	Replace character with <i>x</i>

# Can combine with counter

x	Delete character under cursor
10x	Delete 10 characters
w	Move to next word
3w	Advance three words
f,	Move to next comma
4f,	Move to 4 <sup>th</sup> next comma
r=	Replace character with equal sign
6r=	Replace six chars with equal signs



# Can combine with commands

dd	Delete line
cc	Change line (finish with <i>Esc</i> )
10dd	Delete 10 lines
dw	Delete word
cw	Change word
d5w	Delete five words
df,	Delete until next comma
c%	Change up to matching brace

# The single greatest command of all

- Repeat last command

# Finally: How to exit vi

ZZ	Save and exit
:X <i>Enter</i>	Save and exit
:wq <i>Enter</i>	Save and exit
:q <i>Enter</i>	Quit if nothing was changed
:q! <i>Enter</i>	Quit, discard changes

# How the IP editing job was done

<code>/127</code> <i>Enter</i>	Go to beginning of IP
<code>cf1</code>	Change until end of IP
<code>localhost</code> <i>Esc</i>	Replace IP by host name
<code>n</code>	Repeat search
<code>.</code>	Repeat change
<code>n.n.n.</code>	until all IPs are done
<code>ZZ</code>	Save and exit

# Resources

**About vi** <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vi>

**About vim** [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vim\\_\(text\\_editor\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vim_(text_editor))

**vi cheat sheet** <https://duckduckgo.com/?q=vi+cheat+sheet&iax=1>

**vi Tutorial** <https://www.tutorialspoint.com/unix/unix-vi-editor.htm>

**5 Minute Introduction** <http://heather.cs.ucdavis.edu/~matloff/UnixAndC/Editors/ViIntro.html>

**Where vi came from** <https://twobithistory.org/2018/08/05/where-vim-came-from.html>

**Pro vim tips** <https://itsfoss.com/pro-vim-tips/>